

ABSTRACT

A method and a device test the operating safety of a process control device with a control element and an actuator to move the control element, as well as a position controller in a safety circuit. A control unit is connected with the position controller and is coupled to the actuator such that the actuator can be operated to move the control element from an initial condition to a final condition in the event of an incident with the aid of a controlling of the actuator by the control unit. A measurement device acquires measurement signals indicating movement of the control element from the initial condition. The position controller comprises a control signal generator to generate a control signal for partial movement of the control element in a test cycle for the process control device, and to transmit the control signal via a signal connection from the position controller to the control unit.